

Approved PTO Meeting Minutes

December 3rd, 2013

Attendees: Rachael Wilde, Erica Marson, Gretchen Wright, Rhonda McCall, Sarah Scott, Shawna Walton, Leah Lundy, Ivonne Renderos-Rivas, Michele Bulosan, David Massingill, Beth Wolfsong, Marne Oyen

Introductions were made and the minutes from the November 5th, 2013 PTO meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Our principal, Erica Marson, was first to present. She gave a review of Fir Grove's state report card. This is a reflection of the Oaks testing of Fir Grove's 3rd – 5th graders. Erica provided a hand out that showed academic achievement, academic growth and subgroup growth levels. Academic growth goal was a new component this year that expresses the level of students that met their state goal but not their own growth goal. Fir Grove's overall level was a 3 out of a possible 5; level 4 was missed by only .4% When looking at the detailed break out of information Fir Grove is doing strongly in math at all levels but reading in the sub group level is where we see the biggest gap. Mrs. Marson and staff are looking at ways to improve this gap. Further information on school report cards may be found at

www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=1786

Next Erica provided a report card explanation as well as a handout of the academic key that will be sent home with the report cards coming home next week. She expressed it would be helpful to have this key in hand when viewing your child's new report card. Also it will be helpful to keep in mind you are looking at an end of year target on the report card not a current point in time. On each core section on the report card there will be a scale of +, = or -. A +2 means on target to get there, however if you see a -2 then talk to your teacher as extra work may be needed to help your student reach end of year goals. There will be comments after each core subject but don't worry if you see no comments, it might mean the topic has not yet been covered this year. This new reporting focuses more on academic than behavior and helps schools become more standardized and consistent with each other. Also important to note Beaverton high schools and middle schools have been using this new reporting system for a few years now. Elementary is the last to convert over.

There will also be a nonperishable food drive happening at Fir Grove December 16th through the 19th. A civil war to see who will win the food drive with the most food in their bins between the Ducks, Beavers or the Platypus. Bins will be located in the front lobby. All donated food will stay local and go to Fir Grove families in need.

Mrs. Marson had one last item, Ms. Caryl, our school counselor, has a website and she talks about her lessons she teaches to our students. This will help parents provide back up for home on the lessons she is teaching. The website is <http://sites.google.com/a/beaverton.k12.or.us/ms-caryl-s-school-counseling-corner>

Sarah Scott was up next with the budget update. Fun Run money is still coming in and we are approaching \$28,000. Expenses were Doughnuts for Dudes, Kindergarten fieldtrips and prizes for the fun run. Sarah also noted that there are several teachers that have not spent their \$100. Ask your teacher how they spent theirs or if they have.

Leah Lundy our volunteer coordinator was next up. There were 971 volunteer hours logged for November and we have reached 3,500 so far for the year. Thank you for all that you do! A few dates to take note of, December 9th no school, December 12th is the Winter recital and volunteers will be needed to set up chairs and take them down. Winter break will be December 21st through January 5th. Looking forward to the New Year, Valentine parties are just around the corner on February 14th from 1:30-2:30, March 7th will be doughnuts for dudes and April 17th will be the Science Fair. She is also looking for staff treat donations for April, May and June. Also Passport is always looking for volunteers and the

next Passport testing date is December 19th, please contact Sandi Bone if you can help at bone.sandi@gmail.com Leah also noted to make sure our volunteers are logging any hours they have worked from home!

A quick side bar, Erica mentioned they might be setting up something similar to Passport but for Math. This might happen this year but most likely it will be next year. There followed a brief discussion about the best way to do this and to get volunteers set up.

Ivonne Renderos-Rivas was next up with a fundraising update. She was in need of a few people to help sort the prizes tomorrow and Thursday at 11am. The prize assembly will be this Friday at 1pm. Ballots went out today for what the teachers will have to do. Tuesday of next week will be the limo ride, 13 children made it and kids will know by this Friday who is going to get to go. She requested a few more PTO parents show up to chaperone on Tuesday. Finally a huge thank you to David Massingill and his family for all their assistance and donations to the Fun Run.

Rhonda McCall had the president update next. Battle of the Books sign up will be this Thursday at lunch recess. She followed with a brief description of how Battle of the Books is run and expressed it is a great program for your children to do if they are in the 4th or 5th grade. Also noted for 3rd graders the Battle of the Books for the following year are listed over the summer so you can get a jump on your reading!

The music recital on December 12th will be for grades 2nd, 3rd, and 5th. Other grades will be in the Spring.

Remember no school on Monday, December 9th.

The Book Fair was a success and we did over \$5,000 in sales and a portion will be coming back to Fir Grove. The Spring Book Fair will be a buy one, get one free; it has not yet been scheduled. We also made \$500 from movie ticket sales this Fall and movies for the Spring will be coming soon.

Next there was a question from a parent about lunch time and that it seemed shorter this year and much too quick. Mrs. Marson said she would remind students about the overflow table if they need extra time. Another contributing factor is recess is before lunch this year rather than after.

David Massingill also noted he was interested in helping with a pizza fundraiser for the 5th grade. Discussion followed to help get him in touch with the right person.

Lastly it was noted there will be an Assembly on December 16th with African Drums from 1-1:45.

Next PTO meeting will be January 14th at 8:05 in the Portable.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm